BEFORE THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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PARENT ON BEHALF OF STUDENT,

OAH Case No. 2014100242

v.

FORT BRAGG UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT.

ORDER GRANTING PEREMPTORY CHALLENGE

On October 20, 2014, at the commencement of a telephonic prehearing conference, Student made a motion for a peremptory challenge seeking to disqualify Administrative Law Judge Charles Marson from hearing this case; and shortly thereafter filed a written challenge. Student's peremptory challenge is made pursuant to Government Code section 11425.40, subdivision (d), of the Administrative Procedures Act, and California Code of Regulations, title 1, section 1034.

Government Code section 11425.40, subdivision (d), establishes the criteria for disqualification of the presiding officer. A party is entitled to one peremptory challenge (disqualification without cause) to an ALJ assigned to an Office of Administrative Hearings hearing. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 1, § 1034, subds. (a) & (b); Gov. Code, § 11425.40, subd. (d).) In no event will a peremptory challenge be allowed if it is made after the hearing has commenced. In addition, if at the time of a scheduled prehearing conference, an ALJ has been assigned to the hearing, any challenge to the assigned ALJ shall be made no later than commencement of that prehearing conference. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 1, § 1034, subd. (c).) A peremptory challenge is not allowed on reconsideration or remand, and cannot be made after a hearing has begun. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 1, § 1034, subd. (a).)

Student's peremptory challenge is timely made and is granted pursuant to Government section 11425.40, subdivisions (a) and (d), and California Code of Regulations, title 1, section 1034, subdivision (c). The matter is reassigned to ALJ Deidre L. Johnson.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATE: October 20, 2014

/S/

DEIDRE L. JOHNSON Administrative Law Judge Office of Administrative Hearings